

Appln. No. 08/904,056
Amendment dated October 18, 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed July 27, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. through 22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A mouse device for a computer incorporating a multimedia device, comprising:

a housing having a bottom wall for resting on a surface during use and an upper wall extending upwardly from a perimeter of the bottom wall that defines an interior of the housing above the bottom wall;

a mouse button disposed on the upper wall of the housing to control an operation of the computer;

a cursor control device disposed on and extendable through the bottom wall of the housing such that movement of the bottom wall of the housing across the surface actuates the cursor control device;

at least one multimedia control device disposed on the upper wall of the housing, the at least one multimedia control device being configured to control only the multimedia device of the computer;

a connection that transmits signals generated by the mouse button, cursor control device and multimedia control device to the computer; and

wherein the at least one multimedia control device directly controls at least one function of the multimedia device of the computer in a single step and without the use of a menu or other graphic display.

24 through 25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the signals generated by the mouse button, cursor control device and multimedia control device are packetized prior to transmission over the connection.

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27. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the connection is compatible with a serial port on the computer.

28. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the multimedia control device comprises a volume control slider or wheel for providing direct volume control of the multimedia device.

29. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the multimedia control device comprises multiple actuators disposed on the upper wall of the housing for directly controlling functions of a CD-ROM drive, wherein one or more such functions are selected from the group consisting of play, stop, next-track, previous-track, fast-forward, and fast-backward.

30. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the multimedia control device comprises multiple actuators disposed on the upper wall of the housing for directly controlling functions of a tuner, wherein one or more such functions are selected from the group consisting of next station or channel, previous station or channel, scan up the frequencies, scan down the frequencies, and preset stations.

31. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the multimedia control device comprises multiple actuators disposed on the upper wall of the housing for directly controlling functions of a speaker, wherein one or more such functions are selected from the group consisting of volume, treble and base.

32. (Previously Presented) The mouse device of claim 23, wherein the cursor control device comprises a mouse ball extendable through the bottom wall of the housing.

33. (Cancelled)

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34. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:
- a computer having a processor, and a memory and a multimedia device operatively coupled to the computer;
 - a pointing device having:
 - a housing having a bottom wall for resting on a surface during use and an upper wall extending upwardly from a perimeter of the bottom wall that defines an interior of the housing above the bottom wall;
 - a cursor control device disposed on and extendable through the bottom wall of the housing such that movement of the bottom wall of the housing across the surface actuates the cursor control device and
 - a control for controlling a function of the multimedia device such that actuation of the control causes the computer to directly control the function of the multimedia device in a single step without a menu or other graphic display via the pointing device by actuation of the control, the control being disposed on the upper wall of the housing; and
 - a connection that operatively couples the pointing device to a corresponding port of the computer through which all communication between the pointing device and the computer occurs.

35 through 36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the signals generated by the cursor control device and multimedia control device are packetized prior to communication over the connection.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the port is a serial port on the computer.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the multimedia device is integrated with the computer.

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40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the multimedia device is selected from the group of multimedia devices comprising an amplifier operatively coupled to at least one speaker, a radio tuner, a television tuner, and an optical disc player capable of playing audio compact discs.

41. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

- a computer having at least a processor, a memory and at least one multimedia device operatively integrated with the computer;

- a housing having a bottom wall for resting on a surface during use and an upper wall extending upwardly from a perimeter of the bottom wall that defines an interior of the housing above the bottom wall;

- a mouse button disposed on the upper wall of the housing to control an operation on the computer;

- a cursor control device disposed on and extendable through the bottom wall of the housing such that movement of the bottom wall of the housing across the surface actuates the cursor control device;

- at least one multimedia control device disposed on the upper wall of the housing, the at least one multimedia control device being configured to control only the multimedia device of the computer;

- a connection that transmits signals generated by the mouse button, cursor control device and multimedia control device to the computer; and

- wherein the at least one multimedia control device provides direct control of the multimedia device of the computer in a single step without a menu or other graphic display.

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42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 wherein the signals generated by the mouse button, cursor control device and multimedia control device are packetized prior to transmission over the connection, and wherein the connection comprises a radio frequency transceiver.

43. (Previously presented) The system of claim 41 wherein said at least one multimedia device comprises a plurality of multimedia devices and said at least one multimedia control device comprises a plurality of multimedia control devices located on different parts of the upper wall of said housing, at least two of said control devices control different multimedia devices of said plurality of multimedia devices, and said plurality of multimedia devices comprising at least two of an amplifier operatively coupled to at least one speaker, a radio tuner, a television tuner and an optical disc player capable of playing audio compact discs.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 wherein the multimedia control device comprises a volume control slider or wheel on the upper wall of the housing for providing direct volume control of the multimedia device.

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the multimedia control device comprises a volume control slider or wheel on the upper wall of the housing for providing direct volume control of the multimedia device.

47. (Previously presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the upper wall of the housing comprises a top wall portion and a perimeter wall portion extending between the top wall portion of the upper wall and the bottom wall, the mouse button being disposed on the top wall portion of the upper wall and the at least one multimedia control device being disposed on the perimeter wall portion of the upper wall.

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48. (Previously presented) The mouse device of claim 23 wherein the upper wall of the housing comprises a top wall portion and a perimeter wall portion extending between the top wall portion of the upper wall and the bottom wall, the mouse button being disposed on the top wall portion of the upper wall and the at least one multimedia control device being disposed on the top wall portion of the upper wall.

49. (Previously presented) The mouse device of claim 48 wherein the at least one multimedia control device comprises multiple actuators, and at least one actuator is disposed on the top wall portion of the upper wall and at least one actuator is disposed on the perimeter wall portion of the upper wall.